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lobes. The superior portion of the first *gyrus occipitalis* sunken, with incomplete development of the *tuberculum occipitale*. Cuneus, small. Corpus callosum, dwarfed.

3. The main deviations from the normal here were: Forebrain very small; great simplification of the convolutions. Exposure of a portion of the island of Reil. Union of the right central fissure with fissure of Sylvius; complete separation of the anterior central convolution on the right side from the horizontal frontal convolutions by an abnormally developed praecentral sulcus. Occipital convolutions small and abnormally formed. Presence of an *operculum occipitale*. Abnormal formation of the parieto-occipital fissure, especially on the right side. Shortening of the corpus callosum caudad. Five good plates accompany the text.

Variations of the spinal nerves in the caudal region of the domestic Pigeon.

JAMES I. PECK. *Jour. of Morphology*, Vol. III, No. 1. June, 1889.
1 Plate.

The author first determined that the variable number of caudal vertebræ was not altogether explained by union of one or more with the coccyx, for if this had been the case an inverse relation was to be expected between the length of the coccyx and the number of caudal vertebræ. It was, however, found that the coccyx was longer in those specimens having many than in those having few free caudal vertebræ, and although the relation of the most caudal one of the latter to the coccyx varied, being more or less ankylosed with it, yet the variations in this part of the skeleton are thus shown to be more than relative. Specimens were examined by direct dissection and by sections—dovecote and fantail pigeons being employed. In various specimens from 5 to 8 free caudal vertebræ were found. This gave from 6 to 9 spaces for the emergence of nerves. In general the number of nerves was equal to the number of spaces minus 2, but it was sometimes equal to the number of spaces minus one. In one case, also, the most caudal nerve was present apparently on one side only. Caudad, at the point where the nerves arise, the cord is continued as a filum terminale, the arrangement of the nerves preventing anything like a cauda equina. The conclusion is that the nervous system in this region is plastic, and varies in association with the number of caudal vertebræ.

Anatomischer Befund bei einseitigem Fehlen des Kniephänomens. A. PICK.
Archiv f. Psychiatrie und Nervenkrankheiten. Bd. XX. H. 3, 1889.

The spinal cord examined in this case was from a man of 60 years dying of pleuro-pneumonia while under treatment for tabes and dementia paralytica. In the fresh cord there was makroscopically nothing abnormal. When hardened in bichromate of potash the posterior columns were plainly seen to be degenerated through the entire length of the cord. The maximum disturbance was about the juncture of the dorsal with the lumbar regions. Here, as in the other regions, the left side was more involved than the right, and specially the root zone of the left side was more degenerated than that of the right, though there was some degeneration on the right side also. The knee jerk on the left side was absent in the patient, and on the right could be obtained with re-enforcement only. Westphal had already associated the loss of the knee-jerk with disease of the root zone (*Wurzeleintrittzone*) at the level of union between dorsal and lumbar regions; and this case is presented as confirmatory of his results. It will be observed that the localization is of a lesion in a tract of fibers and not of a cell group.

Histologische Untersuchungen am Rückenmark der Tritonen. K. R. BURCK-HARDT. Archiv f. mikros. Anatomie. Bd. 34. H. 1, 1889.